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## House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

October 24, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ADRIAN SMITH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

Reverend Avelino Gonzalez, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Dear Lord, God of history, and our Father, you have anointed this great Nation to be the promoter and defender of freedom, unity, justice, peace, and the common good. You inspired our Founding Fathers, at the inception of our Republic, to recognize that mankind is endowed with self-evident and unalienable rights which reflect our unique status of being created in Your image and likeness.

We beseech You today, and ask You to pour out Your Holy Spirit upon our Republic and upon the Members of this House of Representatives so that all the deliberations and decisions of this governing body may be in conformity with our great call to defend these transcendent rights, and thereby, help build a civilization of authentic love, justice, and peace.

We ask this in Your Most Holy and Eternal name. Amen.

### EMPLOYING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

(Mr. MCKINLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, recently the Civitan Club of Wheeling, West Virginia, hosted a learning session on "Employing Individuals with Disabilities." With nearly 50 million Americans living with disabilities, I applaud the efforts of the Wheeling Civitan Club for recognizing the importance of providing individuals with disabilities the tools necessary to be successful.

President Ronald Reagan called for people to provide understanding, encouragement, and opportunities to help persons with disabilities lead productive and fulfilling lives.

As an individual with a significant hearing impairment, and a grandfather of a child with special needs, I am very familiar with the hardships of overcoming the obstacles of disabilities.

Disabilities have no boundaries. They cut across the lines of racial, ethnic, educational, social, and economic backgrounds and can occur in any family. I encourage us all to learn about the people in our community who have disabilities, and to recognize that all of us have talents and abilities that can make this a better place in which to live.

### CLASS ACT

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, last week, Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius announced that despite her Department's best efforts, what is known as the CLASS Act is not fiscally viable and will not be implemented.

The CLASS Act would have created a long-term care insurance option for employees. But you know what? It had been called a Ponzi scheme of the first order. Not my words, not even my Governor's words. Those are the words of

Senator KENT CONRAD, the Democratic chairman of the Senate Budget Committee.

Mr. Speaker, this is just another example of bad policy that was caused by the rushed approach to create and pass the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Instead of focusing on reducing the price of long-term care insurance, the CLASS Act would have cost the taxpayers more money for the creation of yet another Federal program.

Now, incredibly, the CLASS Act is being abandoned by the Department of Health and Human Services, but the President refuses to let it go. We'll have a hearing on this in my committee later this week, Energy and Commerce.

But, Mr. Speaker, we can and we must do better. We need to repeal this health care law and replace it with commonsense market-based solutions that enhance our medical system, put the patient at the center of care, and drive down the cost of health care.

### HONORING FATHER ISAAC MASGA AYUYU

(Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, we recently celebrated an important anniversary in the Northern Mariana Islands for one of our longest-serving spiritual leaders. Reverend Father Isaac Masga Ayuyu has led the island faithful for 25 years. Pale' Ike, as he's fondly known, is the first ordained priest from the island of Rota, and the fifth local person to join the priesthood. He serves today as Parochial Vicar of Mount Carmel Cathedral on Saipan, and as Director of Worship for the Diocese.

Pale' Ike has had many mentors on his way to the priesthood, in particular, his parents, Francisca Masga

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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